

# Humpty Who?: A Crash Course In 80 Nursery Rhymes



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## Synopsis

Sing your baby to sleep with . . . The Love Boat theme song? Children deserve better than that! With its hip approach, witty headnotes, and accompanying CD, *Humpty Who?* is the crash course for every new mom or dad who wants to give their child the simple pleasures of classic nursery rhymes . . . but can't remember what happens past the first line. A what-to-read as well as a how-to-read, this collection of 80 judiciously selected, edited, and annotated rhymes, songs, and finger play features all the timeless characters and their storiesâ "Jack and Jill, Georgie Porgie, Little Bo Peep, the Noble Duke of York, Contrary Mary, Wee Willie Winkie, the Three Blind Mice. But it's more than just Mother Goose. There are lullabies, rounds, and riddles. How to recite "The Itsy-Bitsy Spider," and make the hand-motions that have held children spellbound for generations. How to act out "I'm a Little Teapot," or really get a child rocking with "Banbury Cross." Plus, there are explanations for curious children (and grown-ups)â "for example, what exactly a "tuffet" is, how to make "pease porridge," what else on the bus goes round and roundâ "and suggestions for reciting the poetry of the greats (Shakespeare, Blake, Dickinson); tips on how to improvise; and the secret weapon of the yoga "Om." The accompanying CD, featuring the rocking "Hell's Kitchen Moms and Babes Ensemble," is both great to play for baby, and the fun way for parents to learn the music that goes along with many of the rhymes.

## Book Information

Age Range: Baby - 12 years

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Workman Publishing Company; Pap/Com edition (November 29, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0761143688

ISBN-13: 978-0761143680

Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 0.8 x 6.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 42 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #194,901 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music > Songbooks #166 inÂ Books > Parenting & Relationships > Parenting > Parenting Boys #192 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Nursery Rhymes

## Customer Reviews

Once Upon a Time, Every Parent Knew... Little Jack Horner - Wee Willie Winkie - The Queen of Hearts - Georgie Porgie - Mary, with the lamb, and Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary - Old King Cole - Alice the Camel - Little Miss Muffet - Not to mention the intricate finger ballet called "Itsy Bitsy Spider" and the game of finding Thumbkin. Now, for every mom and dad who want to give their child the simple pleasures of nursery rhymes but can't remember what happens past the first line, help is here. Humpty Who? is a crash course in Mother Goose (and more), featuring 80 classic poems, songs, lullabies, rounds, and riddles. Plus, for curious kids and grown-ups, even more fun stuff: exactly what a "tuffet" is, how to make "pease porridge," and the backstory of "Baa, Baa, Black Sheep," baby's first protest song.

Jennifer (â œsoft and whiteâ •) Griffin is the author of Humpty Who? and the mother of two. As a Jenniferâ "the most common name of her generationâ " she has been obsessed with names her whole life. She and her husband live in New York City with their son, Luke (â œworshipfulâ •), and daughter, Josephine (â œGod addsâ •).Â

I am a new mom and I consider this a good buy. I found the book informative and helpful. I'm glad to have words to the basics - most of which i had forgotten! My 5 month old son enjoys me singing the songs to him and miming out many of the lyrics - i'm sure that this will be more interactive as he gets older. Some things that i think could have been done better:- The songs often times are sung too fast for my son to get any benefit of begining to learn what words mean - at this point they are just speedy sounds.- Heavy on the french songs. I don't speak french and me trying to sing some of these songs is laugable, i'm sure i'm butchering the french language and again it is just garbled sounds to my infant.- Not enough musical variation - the voices are the same throughout and many of the songs sound very similar.- Song grouping seems haphazard. I understand that many folks will rip the music to their MP3 media device, but i'm using a good old fashioned CD player and often times a lullaby will come after an active song. Having better grouping would be good so i could put the CD on at a certain point if i wanted all the lullabys or if it was active play time.

I actually like the book a lot. It is a great refresher on some of the nursery rhymes I have forgotten, along with some great tidbits I didn't know. We finally got around to playing the DVD during a road trip this weekend and it started skipping midway through. The book was delivered in fine condition, so thinking the issue was in manufacturing not delivery.

## Great gift for children

I love this book, although I do not like the under title, a crash course for dummies. I used to teach preschool, and I had forgotten some of the songs I taught the children. It was wonderful to find them in this book. It is to be a present for a young family with a 4-year old, and a 2-year old. I am sure that the children will enjoy the songs on the cd, and songs that their very smart mother will sing to them!

This book is a great review for those of us who have forgotten nursery rhymes, and for those deprived souls who never knew them, it offers a non-judgemental introduction with background as well as tips for sharing with children. The cd is packaged in a sturdy plastic envelope inside the front cover. The tunes are lively and easy to sing along with or just listen to. My granddaughter has enjoyed this since she was a few months old, and now recognizes and claps and sings along with the songs. This is a great gift for baby showers, new parents, or new grandparents or for pre-school teachers.

I got this as a shower gift for my first kid and now give it as a gift myself. It is an essential get-to-know your nursery rhymes (again) so you can sing to your child or at the very least play them the cd while you're driving. Highly recommend!!

This is a great book for those of us who remember and love the wonderful selections read to us as children and want to pass that along to another generation. It takes away the guessing of certain lines and brings them right back to memory. Ideal for anyone teaching young ones the joy of such all-time reading and learning favorites.

After having our first a couple of months ago, I realized that while I knew the tunes to a bunch of the standard baby songs, I couldn't remember the words past the first line or two. This is a great book complete with a CD of most of the songs that will help you learn the real words to all those distantly familiar songs. Let's face it, some of us just aren't good at rhyming and making up verses at 3am when sleep deprived. I also bought this book/CD for a friend of mine who is not American born, but just had her first child and has him in daycare. She loves it because she can learn all the classic songs and rhymes that they teach her son that she didn't know before!

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